

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:824

ANSWERED ON:29.02.2000

AUTONOMY TO LOCAL BODIES

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Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide financial and administrative autonomy to local bodies to improve the functioning of municipal services;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a)to(c): As per Entry 5 of the State List of the Constitution, municipality is a State subject. In view of this, it is for the concerned State Governments to take steps for improving the financial and administrative autonomy of urban local bodies. The Constitution (74th Amendment) Act, 1992 provides that the State Legislature may endow the municipalities with requisite financial and functional powers to enable them to function as an effective unit of local-self-government. 12th Schedule of the Constitution inserted by the Constitution (74th Amendment) Act, also provides an illustrative list of functions which may devolve upon municipalities. The municipal legislations enacted by the State legislatures in pursuance of the Constitution (74th Amendment) Act provide for functional and financial powers of municipalities.

In order that the provisions of the Constitution (74th Amendment) Act are implemented in letter and spirit and urban local bodies function effectively, Ministry of Urban Development has recently convened a series of Regional Meets of the elected representatives of urban local bodies and State Governments. A Conference of Ministers of Local Self Government and Urban Development of all States and Union Territories was held at New Delhi on 17-18 January, 2000 in which the devolution of functional, financial and administrative powers to urban local bodies was also stressed upon to State Governments.